1. (previously presented) A method replaying a portion of a communication, comprising the steps of:

establishing a connection between first and second end nodes;

receiving, at a buffering module in the connection remote from the first and second end nodes, a communications signal sent from the second end node to the first end node;

maintaining in a memory a segment of the communications signal that was transmitted through the buffering module immediately previous to present time;

receiving at the buffering module a request to retransmit at least a portion of the segment of the signal; and

retransmitting from the buffering module to the first end node the portion of the segment.

2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the connection is a PSTN, and wherein the step of establishing a connection includes establishing a circuit-switched path.

3. (previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the request to retransmit is a touch-tone sequence.

4. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the request to retransmit is an in-band signal.

5. (previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the request to retransmit is an out-of-band signal.

6. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of receiving at the buffering module a request to begin maintaining in a memory a segment of the signal.

7. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the connection is a packet switched network.

8. (previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the step of establishing a connection comprises establishing a TCP/IP connection.

9. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the communications signal is a voice signal, and the segment of the signal is a time segment of the voice signal.

10. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the connection includes a wireless signal between the first node and the buffering module.

11. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the connection includes an unreliable portion between the first node and the buffering module.

12. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first node is a handheld device selected from a group consisting of a premises telephone station set, a wireless telephone handset and a PDA.

13. (currently amended) A method replaying a portion of a communication, comprising the steps of:

establishing a connection between first and second end nodes;

receiving, at a buffering module in the connection remote from the first and second end nodes, a communications signal sent from the second end node to the first end node;

maintaining in a memory a segment of the communications signal that was transmitted through the buffering module immediately previous to present time;

receiving at the buffering module a request to retransmit at least a portion of the segment of the signal; and

retransmitting from the buffering module to the first end node the portion of the segment; and

The method of claim 1, wherein the connection includes an audio bridge, and wherein the step of maintaining in memory a segment of the signal comprises maintaining in memory a segment of a signal sent by the audio bridge to listening station sets.

14. (currently amended) A method replaying a portion of a communication, comprising the steps of:

establishing a connection between first and second end nodes;

receiving, at a buffering module in the connection remote from the first and second end nodes, a communications signal sent from the second end node to the first end node;

maintaining in a memory a segment of the communications signal that was transmitted through the buffering module immediately previous to present time;

receiving at the buffering module a request to retransmit at least a portion of the segment of the signal; and

retransmitting from the buffering module to the first end node the portion of the segment; and

~~The method of claim 1,The method of claim 1,~~ further comprising the step of, after retransmitting the portion of the segment, transmitting the signal to the first end node beginning at a point immediately subsequent to the portion of the segment.

15. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of, after retransmitting the portion of the segment, transmitting the signal to the first end node beginning at a point in the signal received from the second node at present time.

16. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of storing a record of the retransmitting step in a message record accumulator.

17. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the request to retransmit received at the buffering module is automatically generated.

18. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the request is generated upon detection of corrupted data.

19. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the request is generated at the first node.

20. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of receiving a communications signal further includes receiving a communications signal sent from the first end node to the second end node.

21. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of transmitting from the buffering module to a memory the portion of the segment.

22. (previously presented) A method for retransmitting a portion of a communication signal to an end node in a network having an unreliable link, comprising the steps of:

buffering, at a location in the network on a side of the unreliable link opposite the end node, a segment of the communication transmitted immediately previous to present time;

receiving, at said location, a request to retransmit at least a portion of the communication segment; and

retransmitting the portion of the segment across the unreliable link to the end node.

23. (previously presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the unreliable link is a wireless signal.

24. (previously presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the request to retransmit is a touch-tone sequence.

25. (previously presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the first node is a handheld device selected from a group consisting of a wireless telephone handset and a PDA.

26. (previously presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising the step of storing a record of the retransmitting step in a message record accumulator.

27. (previously presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the request to retransmit received at the buffering module is automatically generated.

28. (previously presented) The method of claim 27, wherein the request is generated upon detection of corrupted data.

29. (previously presented) The method of claim 27, wherein the request is generated at the first node.